

# THOMPSON COBURN

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May 17, 2000

Matthew H. Kaiser  
202-508-1027

RECORDATION NO. 20018-B FILED

Vernon A. Williams  
Secretary  
Surface Transportation Board  
1925 K Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20423

MAY 19 '00 3-53 PM  
TS  
SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

Dear Secretary Williams:

I am the attorney for State Street Bank and Trust Company, one of the parties described below. I have enclosed two originals of the document described below, to be recorded pursuant to Section 11301 of Title 49 of the U.S. Code.

This document is an Instrument of Acknowledgment of Succession, a secondary document, dated May 19, 2000. The primary document to which this document is connected is recorded under Recordation No. 20018.

The names and addresses of the parties to the document are as follows:

Owner Trustee: Fleet National Bank  
Goodwin Square  
225 Asylum Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103  
Attn: Corporate Trust Administration

Successor  
Owner Trustee: State Street Bank and Trust Company  
Goodwin Square  
225 Asylum Street, 23<sup>rd</sup> Floor  
Hartford, CT 06103  
Attn: Corporate Trust Administration

A description of the equipment covered by the document follows:

The equipment consists of 325 Covered Hopper Railcars, bearing consecutive road numbers from DME 29000 through DME 29324, inclusive, and 100 Covered Triple Hopper Cars, bearing consecutive road numbers from DME 49000 through DME 49099, inclusive.

May 17, 2000  
Page 2

A fee of \$26 is enclosed. Please return a file-stamped original to me at the address on this letterhead.

A short summary of the document to appear in the index follows:

Instrument of Acknowledgment of Succession, dated May 19, 2000, relating to Equipment Lease Agreement between Fleet National Bank, Lessor, and Dakota, Minnesota & Eastern Railroad Corporation, Lessee, with Recordation No. 20018, dated April 16, 1996, and covering 325 Covered Hopper Railcars bearing consecutive road numbers from DME 29000 through DME 29324, inclusive, and 100 Covered Triple Hopper Cars bearing consecutive road numbers from DME 49000 through DME 49099, inclusive.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Very truly yours,

Thompson Coburn LLP

By   
Matthew H. Kaiser

mhk/ctl

Enclosures

## INSTRUMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGMENT OF SUCCESSION

This Instrument of Acknowledgment of Succession, dated as of May 19, 2000, by and between Fleet National Bank, a national banking association ("FNB"), individually and as the existing owner trustee under the hereafter defined Trust Agreement (the "Owner Trustee"), and State Street Bank and Trust company, a Massachusetts trust company ("State Street"), individually and as the successor owner trustee under such Trust Agreement (the "Successor Owner Trustee").

WHEREAS, FNB has served as Owner Trustee pursuant to an Amended and Restated Trust Agreement, dated as of April 16, 1996 (the "Trust Agreement"), between FNB and the Owner Participant named therein; and

WHEREAS, FNB as Owner Trustee owns one hundred percent (100%) of the title to and assets of the Trust Estate (as such term is defined in the Trust Agreement), including 325 Covered Hopper Railcars (DME29000-DME29324) and 100 Covered Triple Hopper Cars (DME49000-DME49099) with STB Recordation Number 20018 (the "Rolling Stock"); and

WHEREAS, State Street is in the process of acquiring substantially all of the corporate trust business of FNB, including its interests as Owner Trustee under the Trust Agreement; and

RECORDATION NO. 20018-B FILED

MAY 19 '00 3-53 PM

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

WHEREAS, Section 9.01(d) of the Trust Agreement provides that any corporation to which substantially all the corporate trust business of the Owner Trustee shall be transferred shall, subject to satisfaction of the requirements of Section 9.01(c) of the Trust Agreement, be the Owner Trustee under the Trust Agreement without further act.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties hereto agree as follows:

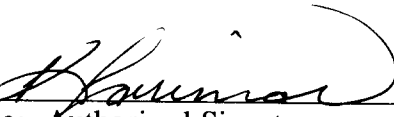
1. The Successor Owner Trustee hereby acknowledges to the Owner Trustee that the Successor Owner Trustee has succeeded to one hundred percent (100%) of the Owner Trustee's right, title and interest in and to the Trust Estate (as defined in the Trust Agreement).
2. State Street represents that it satisfies the requirements of Section 9.01(c) of the Trust Agreement for a successor Owner Trustee.
3. FNB and State Street each represents that State Street is acquiring substantially all of the corporate trust business of FNB.
4. Upon acceptance by the Surface Transportation Board of a certified true copy of this Instrument for recordation with the provisions of 49 C.F.R. Part 1177, the Successor Owner Trustee shall be deemed the Owner Trustee under the Trust Agreement pursuant to Section 9.01(d) thereof.

5. State Street agrees that it is assuming all of the obligations of FNB under the Trust Agreement and the other operative agreements identified in the Trust Agreement and the Successor Owner Trustee under the Trust Agreement and such other operative agreements.

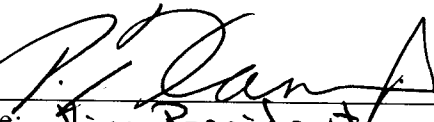
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IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties hereto have set forth their signatures as of the  
date first set forth above.

FLEET NATIONAL BANK.  
individually and as Owner Trustee

By:   
Title: Authorized Signatory

STATE STREET BANK AND TRUST  
COMPANY, individually and as  
Successor Owner Trustee

By:   
Title: Vice President

State of Connecticut)

) ss

County of Hartford )

On this 19 day of May, 2000, before me personally appeared Kathy A. Larimore to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn, says that (s)he is an authorized signatory of Fleet National Bank, that said instrument was signed on behalf of said national banking association by authority of its Board of Directors, and (s)he acknowledged that the execution of the foregoing instrument was the free act and deed of said national banking association.

(SEAL)

Karen R. Felt

Signature of Notary Public

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

**KAREN R. FELT  
NOTARY PUBLIC**

**My Commission Expires 02/29/2004**

State of Connecticut)

) ss

County of Hartford )

On this 19 day of May, 2000, before me personally appeared Philip G. Kane to me personally known, who being by me duly sworn, says that (s)he is the Vice President of State Street Bank and Trust Company, that said instrument was signed on behalf of said Massachusetts trust company by authority of its Board of Directors, and (s)he acknowledged that the execution of the foregoing instrument was the free act and deed of said Massachusetts trust company.

(SEAL)

Karen R. Felt

Signature of Notary Public

My commission expires \_\_\_\_\_

**KAREN R. FELT  
NOTARY PUBLIC**

**My Commission Expires 02/29/2004**